



Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

**Michigan Army National Guard
Michigan Air National Guard**

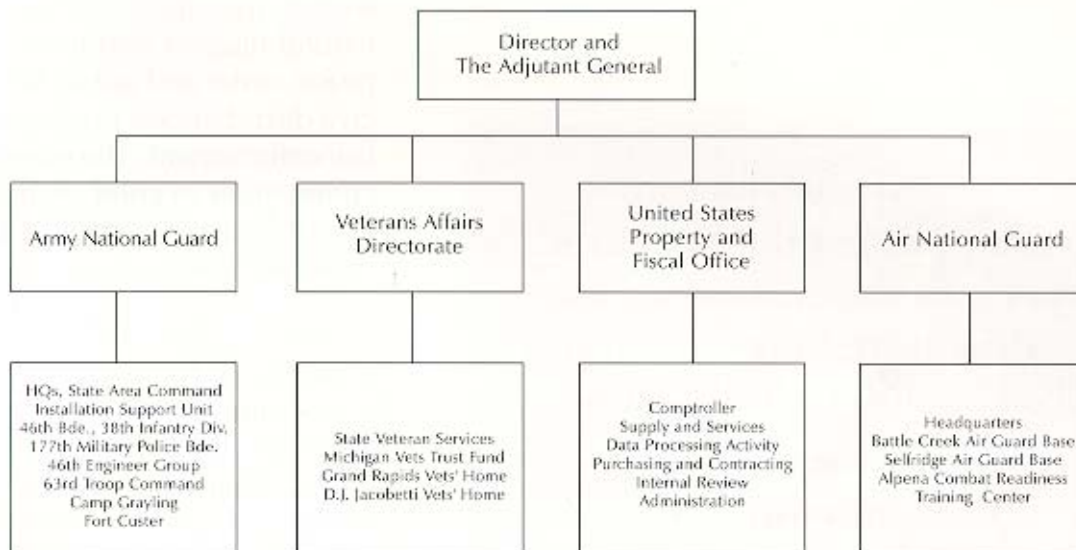




Michigan Department of Military & Veterans Affairs

The Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs is one of many departments of state government in the State of Michigan. It has three primary missions: to execute the duties laid down by

various statutes and the Governor, administration of state-regulated veterans services and military preparedness of the Michigan National Guard to assist both state and federal authorities.





The National Guard

The National Guard is the armed, organized militia, present in all 54 states and territories. The structure of the National Guard is similar to other branches of service but, unlike the other

branches, the National Guard has both a state and a federal role.

At the state level, by direction of the governor, the Guard's mission is to protect the lives and property of the citizens within the state during times of natural disaster and to preserve the peace, order and public safety during civil disturbances, in support of local law enforcement. The governor is the commander in chief of the National Guard in each state, except when called to federal duty.

At the federal level, the Guard's mission is to assist the federal government in defending the sovereign interests of the United States. During a war or national emergency, the National Guard may be called to active duty by the president or Congress.

STATE ROLE

Mission: Protect the lives and property of the citizens within the state during times of natural disaster and civil disaster.

**Governor
Commander in Chief**

FEDERAL ROLE

Mission: Defend the sovereign interests of the United States during a war or national emergency.

**President
Commander-in-Chief**

History of the National Guard

The history of the National Guard predates the founding of our nation and a national military by nearly a century and a half. America's first permanent militia regiments were organized by citizen-soldiers of the Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1636. These part-time soldiers became the famous "Minutemen" — civilians who could be called upon at a minute's notice to defend our land.



History of the Michigan National Guard

The Michigan National Guard, originally known as the Militia of the Territory of Michigan (or the Michigan Militia) began its long and honorable service in 1805, 32 years before Michigan became a state.

The Michigan Militia was first called to duty for the War of 1812. Hundreds of Michigan Militia volunteers participated in Gen. William Hull's Canada Campaign. The campaign was doomed to failure, however, and the invading force was captured. The Michigan Militia was paroled, thus ending its participation in this war.

In 1832, during the Black Hawk War, the first regiment of the Michigan Militia took up arms to defend settlers on the western edge of the territory from Indian attacks. There were no casualties caused by fighting but hardships of the march, exposure and sickness took their toll.

In 1838, the Michigan Militia served in the Patriot War and ten years later, in the Mexican War guarding communication lines in Mexico City.

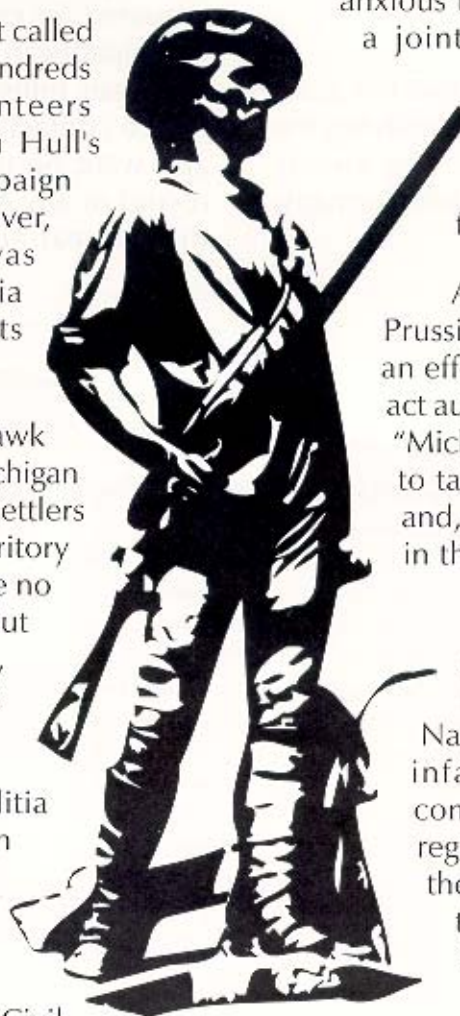
In 1861, at the start of the Civil War, President Lincoln's call for troops was met by the mustering-in of the First Michigan Volunteer Infantry composed of independent companies of the Michigan Militia. It was the first unit to reach Washington D.C. from west of the Allegheny Mountains. It led Union forces across the Potomac River to occupy Alexandria, Va., the first city taken from the Confederacy.

After the Civil War, many people thought war was so terrible that there would never be another one among civilized people. As of 1870, the affairs of the militia were at such a low ebb there were only three companies in the state service. These three companies, anxious to maintain their existence, held a joint encampment that August at Slocum's Island. This aroused the interest of the public and especially young men. The state organization rapidly grew from that time on.

Another lure was the Franco-Prussian War of 1870, which had such an effect that the legislature passed an act authorizing the establishment of the "Michigan State Troops." The plan was to take existing volunteer companies and, if they desired, incorporate them in the Michigan State Troops.

On December 31, 1894 the Michigan State Troops were redesignated as the Michigan National Guard, consisting of five infantry regiments of eight companies each. In 1898, all five regiments were called to duty during the Spanish-American War, but only three left the United States to fight in Cuba.

Michigan units were mobilized again July 15, 1917, for World War I. All were sent to Camp MacArthur near Waco, Texas (except for the First Michigan Ambulance Company which was assigned to Camp Mills, N.Y., where it became part of the famous 42nd Rainbow Division). These units were merged with those from Wisconsin to form the 32nd





Division. The 32nd was the sixth division to join the American Expeditionary Forces and arrived in France, February 1918. From May until November 1918, the division was almost continuously under fire, and had only ten days in a rest area. In three major offensives, it fought on six fronts, met and vanquished 23 German divisions and took 2,153 prisoners. Units of Michigan's 126th Infantry were the first to set foot on German soil.

It was during these operations that the 32nd gained its "Red Arrow" insignia, signifying the division shot through every line the enemy threw in front of it. The division left Germany, April 1919.

In 1940, just before World War II, the War Department began a "stepped-up" military program. In October, all Michigan National Guard units were mobilized, with the exception of artillery units — they were mobilized early in 1941.

When war was declared December 8, 1941, all troops of the Michigan National Guard were prepared for combat. Before long, units were participating in combat operations on all fronts. Michigan units of the 32nd were among the first to contact the enemy in the South Pacific and went on to establish the longest combat record of any American division. During more than a year-and-a-half of fighting overseas,

First U.S. Army Divisions to Enter Combat, World War II

Division	Component	Date	Area
32nd Infantry Division	National Guard	September 1942	New Guinea
Americal	National Guard	October 1942	Guadalcanal
34th Infantry Division	National Guard	November 1942	North Africa
1st Armored Division	Regular Army	November 1942	North Africa
2nd Armored Division	Regular Army	November 1942	North Africa
1st Infantry Division	Regular Army	November 1942	North Africa
3rd Infantry Division	Regular Army	November 1942	North Africa
9th Infantry Division	Regular Army	November 1942	North Africa
25th Infantry Division	Regular Army*	January 1943	Guadalcanal
41st Infantry Division	National Guard	January 1943	New Guinea
43rd Infantry Division	National Guard	February 1943	Guadalcanal
7th Infantry Division	Regular Army*	May 1943	Alaska
37th Infantry Division	National Guard	June 1943	N. Solomons
45th Infantry Division	National Guard	July 1943	Italy
82nd Airborne Division	Reserve	July 1943	Italy
3rd Infantry Division	Regular Army	July 1943	Italy
36th Infantry Division	National Guard	September 1943	Italy
27th Infantry Division	National Guard	November 1943	Central Pacific
40th Infantry Division	National Guard	December 1943	Guadalcanal

*Contained one National Guard regiment

During WWII, Michigan units of the 32nd Division were among the first to make contact with the enemy.



members of the 32nd Division received eleven Congressional Medals of Honor while some subordinate units received the Presidential Unit Citation for actions at Papua, New Guinea.

In 1950, the invasion of South Korea touched off the second national mobilization in a decade. Twenty-six Michigan Army and Air National Guard units were called to active duty during the Korean War, including the 1437th Treadway Bridge Company of Sault Ste. Marie, the first National Guard unit in the nation deployed to Korea.

During the Vietnam War, the Michigan National Guard was not mobilized, however, many individual Guardsmen served.

Between August 1990 and January 1992, the Michigan National Guard deployed more than 1,500 Guard members in support of Operation Desert Shield/Storm, to restore the Republic of Kuwait.

In addition to its federal duties, the Michigan National Guard has been called upon to serve in time of natural disaster and civil disorder. The earliest occasion occurred in September 1873 when the Grand Rapids Guard went to Muskegon to prevent a threatened release and lynching of a prisoner. The Guard maintained a presence while the prisoner was tried, convicted and sentenced.

In 1913 the Guard was called out to restore order in the Upper Peninsula following the Copper Miner's strike. When riots caused by labor troubles broke out in Flint in January and February 1937, the Michigan Guard was again called

up to maintain law and order and to prevent further rioting.

The Michigan State Troops assumed the duties of the Michigan National Guard while the Guard was serving on federal duty during the two world wars. The Michigan State Troops, by law, takes the place of the Guard whenever it is on extended federal service. During World War II the State Troops saw extended state active duty on numerous occasions including: guard duty around the bridges and tunnels connecting Detroit and Port Huron with Canada; guarding the Federal Communications Monitoring Station at Grand Rapids; guarding the ore docks at Escanaba; and restoring order during the Detroit riots of 1943.

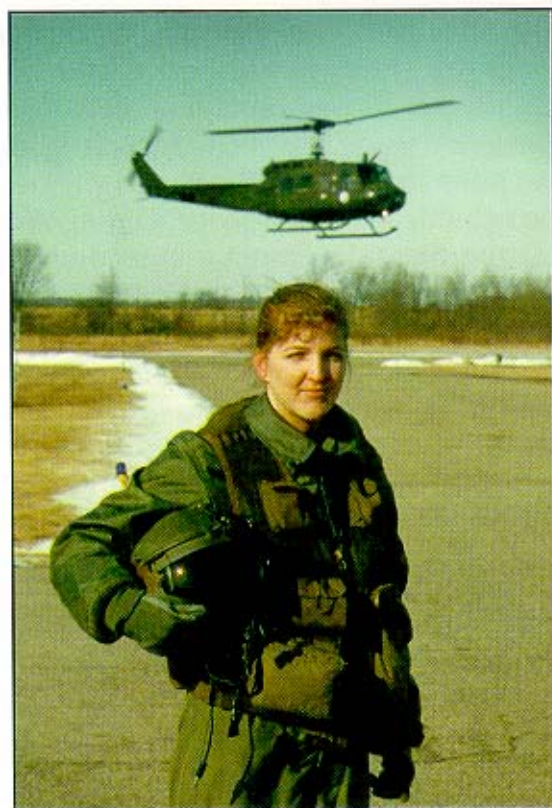
During July 1967, the entire Michigan National Guard was called up to help contain rioting in Detroit. It was again mobilized due to civil unrest after Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated, April 4, 1968.



A Michigan National Guard soldier guards what is left of a store front after the Detroit riots in 1967.



The Michigan Army National Guard



The Michigan Army National Guard consists of a state headquarters and five major commands (MACOMS) which are divided into units located throughout the state. The MACOMS and the type of units they command are listed below.

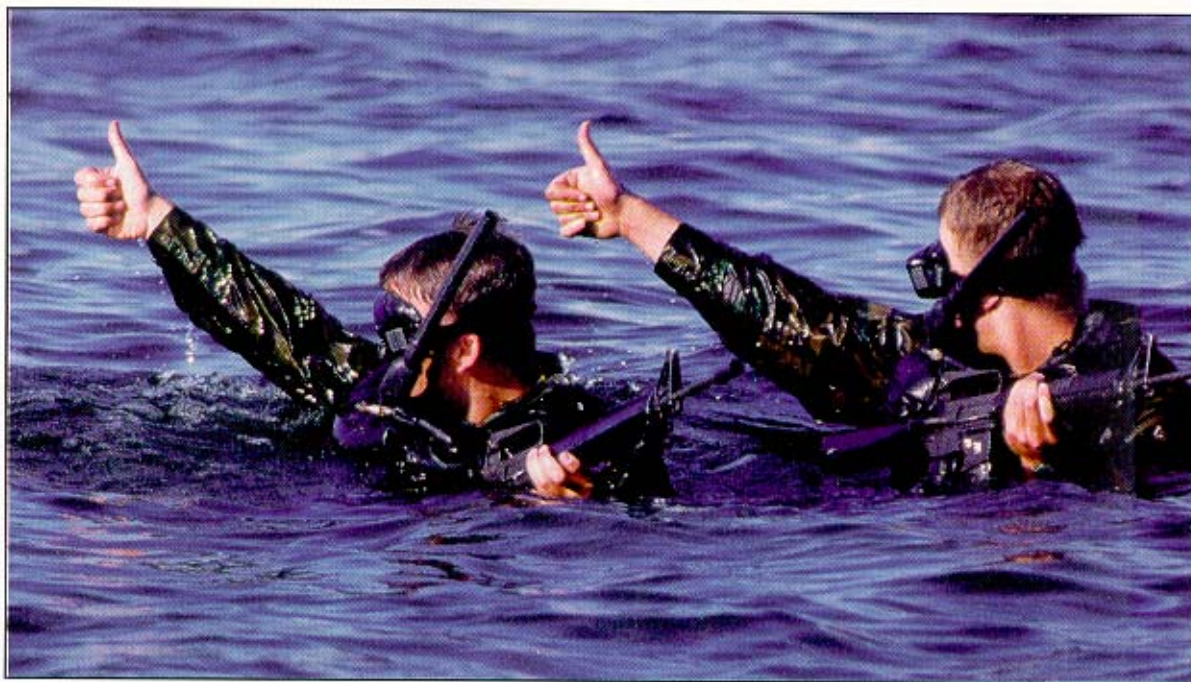
Headquarters, State Area Command

- Personnel
- Finance
- Public Affairs
- Army Band

Maneuver Training Center

- Maintenance
- Ordnance
- Engineers





46th Brigade, 38th Infantry Division

Infantry
Armor
Forward Support
Field Artillery

177th Military Police Brigade

Military Police
Field Artillery
Engineers
Signal

46th Engineer Group

Engineers
Quartermaster

63rd Troop Command

Corps Support
Transportation
Maintenance
Infantry
Medical
Personnel
Aviation
Quartermaster

The Griffin shoulder patch (right) is worn by non-divisional units of the Michigan Army National Guard. In 1679 French explorer LaSalle built a ship to carry an expedition through the Great Lakes (the first white exploration and settlement within the state was French). In honor of his patron, Count Frontenac, LaSalle carved a griffin as a figurehead for his ship.





The Michigan Air National Guard

The Michigan Air National Guard consists of a state headquarters and three Air National Guard Bases. At each base, members of the Air Guard perform military jobs similar to the Army Guard. They in-

clude personnel, finance, information management, medical, engineering, military police, maintenance, and, of course, aviation. The primary missions of the three Michigan air bases are outlined below.

***Battle Creek Air
National Guard Base***
A-10 Thunderbolt II
nickname: "Warthog"



***Selfridge Air National
Guard Base***
F-16 Fighting Falcon



*Selfridge Air
National Guard
Base
C-130E Hercules*

***Alpena Combat
Readiness Center
(Phelps Collins
Air National
Guard Base)***

No aircraft
assigned to this
base.
Primary mission:
Combat training





Michigan National Guard Training Facilities

Camp Grayling

In 1836, the Ottawa Indians ceded the area known today as Camp Grayling to the United States under the Treaty of Washington. Three decades later, after the Civil War, the lumber industry cleared the area of white pine and hardwoods. Soon after, farming was attempted, however the growing season was too short and the soil was unsuitable for agriculture.

In 1913, Grayling lumber baron Rasmus Hanson donated nearly 14,000 acres of land to the State of Michigan for military training and game and forest preservation.

Since that original donation, Camp Grayling has grown into one of the largest National Guard training facilities in the United States. Much of its 147,000 acres is accessible to the

public for hunting, fishing, snowmobiling and other recreational uses when military training is not taking place. Several acres are also reserved for wildlife, such as the Kirtland's Warbler.

Each year, Camp Grayling typically schedules training for more than 50,000 military personnel from National Guard units in Michigan, Indiana, Illinois and Ohio, as well as active-duty and reserve units.

Camp Grayling is located in northern lower Michigan, three miles southwest of the City of Grayling. Visitors are welcome. Maps for self-guided tours are available at Camp Headquarters, Building 117 or from the Grayling Regional Chamber of Commerce.



From tank trails to floating bridges, the training activities at Camp Grayling mirror those taking place at any large military installation.



National Guard Training Facilities

Fort Custer Training Center

Camp Custer was built in 1917 for military training during World War I. Named after Civil War cavalry officer General George Armstrong Custer, more than 100,000 troops trained or demobilized there during the war.

In the years following World War I, the camp was used to train the Officer Reserve Corps and the Civilian Conservation Corps.

On August 17, 1940, Camp Custer was designated Fort Custer and became a permanent military training base. During World War II, more than 300,000 troops trained there including the famed 5th Infantry Division (also known as the "Red Diamond Division") which left for combat in Normandy, France, June 1944. Fort Custer also served as a prisoner of war camp for 5,000 German soldiers until 1945.

Fort Custer became home to units of the Navy Reserve in 1949 and to a Marine Corps Reserve Tactical Bridge Company in 1952. Also during that time, approximately 17,000 troops were trained for the Korean War. Beginning in 1959, Fort Custer served for a decade as part of the North American Air Defense system.

The Michigan Department of Military Affairs assumed control of Fort Custer in 1968. The federally-owned, state-operated training facility is used today for training by the Michigan National Guard and other branches of the Armed Forces primarily from Ohio, Illinois and Indiana. Many Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) students from colleges in Michigan, Ohio, Illinois and Indiana also train at this facility, as well as the FBI, the Michigan State Police, various law enforcement agencies and the Lansing Community College Truck Driver Training School.

Fort Custer is located in Augusta, Mich., approximately five miles west of Battle Creek.



At the Recruit Training Orientation Course future Michigan Army National Guard soldiers sing cadence before entering a classroom for training.



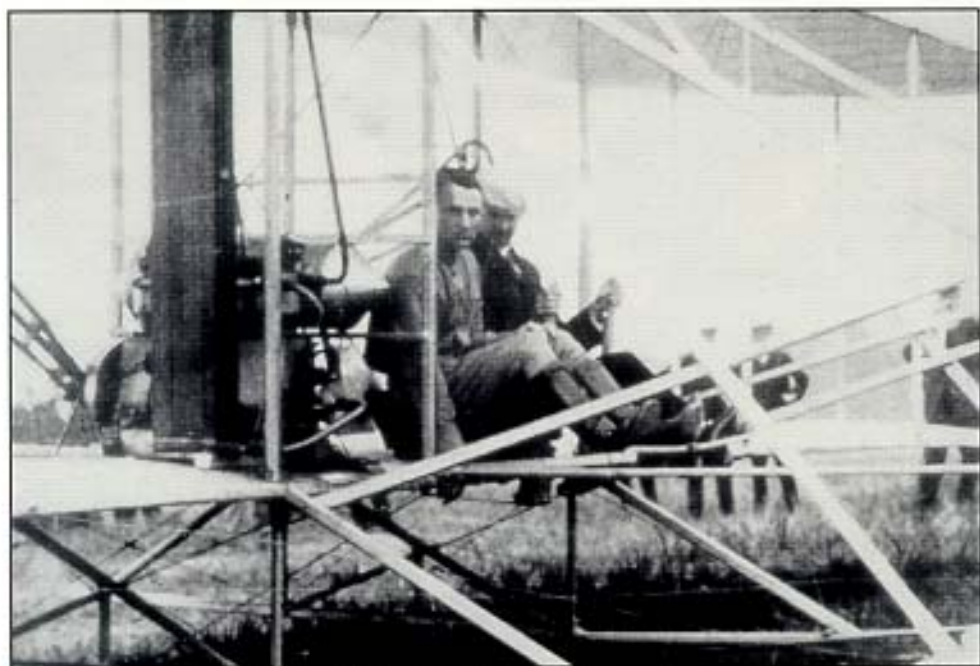
Michigan National Guard Training Facilities

Selfridge Air National Guard Base

In 1914, Michigan realtor Henry B. Joy, caught up in the wave of aviation enthusiasm sweeping the nation, transformed more than 600 acres of marshland northeast of Mount Clemens into "Joy Aviation Field." Three years later, just after the United States entered World War I, the site was leased to the government. On July 1, 1917, it became an official military installation and was renamed "Selfridge Field" in honor of 1st Lt. Thomas E. Selfridge, the first person to lose his life in an aircraft accident. The accident occurred in 1908 with Selfridge as a passenger on a demonstration flight and with Orvil Wright as the pilot. The Army was researching the start of an aviation corps. Mr. Wright survived the crash.

Company G, 33rd Michigan National Guard was the first military unit to occupy Selfridge Air Base. Their job was to get the field ready for the air servicemen of the 8th and 9th Aero Squadrons from Kelly Field, Texas. At that time, Selfridge was primarily an elementary pilot training school, but courses in advanced flying, bombing, radio and photography were also taught.

In April 1918, an aerial gunnery school opened with instructors borrowed from the French, British and Canadian Flying Corps. By the end of World War I, Selfridge was home for 1,028 enlisted men and 200 officers and had trained 72 pilots, 700 mechanics and 1,002 aerial gunners.



1st Lt. Thomas E. Selfridge (left) and Orville Wright are shown prior to taking off on a demonstration flight which crashed, injuring Wright and killing Selfridge.

On June 27, 1919, the war-famed 1st Pursuit Group returned from France, and Selfridge became a pursuit (fighter) field. But soon after, the Group was transferred to Texas and Selfridge's future became uncertain. Then in 1921, the government purchased the field from Mr. Joy for \$190,000 and the 1st Pursuit Group was returned to Selfridge, giving the base national attention as the permanent home of America's World War I top aces.



During the 1920s and early 1930s, Selfridge was a microcosm of the development of aviation and air power. The 1st Pursuit Group claimed some of the world's top military fliers of the era and representatives from many nations came to study the Group's flying techniques.

The outbreak of war in Europe in 1939 saw numerous Selfridge units sent to strengthen our outlying defenses. In 1940, 40 pilots and mechanics volunteered to serve in China. In late 1941, after the attack on Pearl Harbor, the 1st Pursuit Group was transferred to San Diego, ending a long chapter in the history of aviation at Selfridge.

By 1942, Selfridge had expanded to almost five times its original size — from 641 acres to more than 3,600 acres.

During World War II, many units trained at Selfridge. One of the best known, the 332nd Fighter Group, was an all-black unit commanded by Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Jr. One of Davis' trainee pilots, Daniel "Chappie" James, later attained the rank of four-star general and commanded the Aerospace Defense Command.

In 1946, the 56th Fighter Group, who had previously seen combat in Europe during WWII, was reactivated and stationed at Selfridge. The 56th furnished six of the first 15 jet aces for

the Korean War, earning Selfridge the nickname, "Home of the MIG killers."

In 1947, when the Air Force became a separate military department, Selfridge Field became "Selfridge Air Force Base."

Over the next 20 years, Selfridge grew and changed with the times. Units from the Coast Guard, Marines and Navy all made Selfridge their home.

In December 1970, the Michigan Air National Guard moved in and on July 1, 1971, Selfridge Air Force Base became Selfridge Air National Guard Base, the busiest, most diverse military installation in the United States dedicated primarily to the training of reserve components. Today "Team Selfridge" is home for both active duty and reserve component units, representing all five branches of the armed services.



The Selfridge Air Museum has aircraft from WWII to the present on display as well as military memorabilia and artifacts, historic photographs and paintings, aircraft engines and uniforms, all which represent the history of military units assigned to Selfridge since 1917. Call (810) 307-5035 for current hours of operation.



Michigan National Guard Training Facilities

Battle Creek Air National Guard Base

In the early 1920s, Battle Creek resident and civic leader Bert H. Welch stressed the importance of aviation to his community. His dream was to build an airfield on the Garrett C. Wells farm on Prairie Road in Battle Creek. For years he was ignored.

Eventually, in November 1923, the Battle Creek Chamber of Commerce approved his plan. Ten months later, they signed a lease with an option to buy. The rent was \$500 a year and the purchase price was \$30,000.

There was no money to hire workers to build the airfield so volunteers tore down the fences, plowed the field and planted grass. Soon the grass strip airport was born.

In 1928 with still no money coming in, W.L. Kellogg paid \$30,000 to buy 116 acres of the farm, then invested an additional \$30,000 to make improvements. Buildings were removed, additional land was leveled, boundary lights were installed and a hangar was built. The first ground to air, two-way radio system in Michigan was also installed. During this time, the airfield was named W.K. Kellogg Airport.

In 1942, the airport was converted to a military base. Our nation was in the middle of World War II and the Army Air Corps needed the base to train and stage pilots and crews for combat duty overseas. All civilian flying was banned. The Army Air Corps improved and

built many new runways and buildings to support military functions.

Michigan National Guard troops were first stationed at the Kellogg Airport in 1946 and on December 21, twenty-nine men were sworn



An airman loads ammunition on A-10 aircraft.

into the "Battle Creek National Guard Air Corps." On the same day, Michigan Governor Kim Sigler designated the airport as the headquarters for this new unit, the 172nd Fighter Squadron.

Today the Kellogg Regional Airport is the largest municipal-owned airport in Michigan. The Battle Creek Air National Guard Base is located on its north-side. The runways are shared by civilian and military aircraft.



Michigan National Guard Training Facilities

Alpena Combat Readiness Training Center (Phelps Collins Air National Guard Base)

Phelps Collins Air National Guard Base was named in honor of Alpena resident, Cpt. Phelps Collins. Cpt. Collins was an American mercenary and a pilot during World War I who fought and died with the French flying unit, the Lafayette Escadrille.

The Phelps Collins airfield was first used after World War I, when Jennies, American airplanes used for training, landed on grass runways.

The airport was formally dedicated in 1931 and used for training by the Army Air Corps until 1947 when the property was turned over to Alpena County. Then, in 1952, a portion of the airport was leased to the Michigan Air National Guard and they have used it ever since, primarily as an annual training facility.

In 1989, the Air National Guard Medical Readiness Training School was developed at

Phelps Collins. The school trains medical units from all over the nation. Foreign medical personnel, looking to develop their own medical programs, have also attended the school. The medical programs are nationally accredited for professional medical continuing educational credits.

In 1991, the base was formally redesignated as the Alpena Combat Readiness Training Center. Air-to-ground gunnery exercises, cargo and personnel parachute drops, tactical exercises for special forces and air-to-air combat maneuvering are samples of the training provided.

The runways, shared with the Alpena County Regional Airport, can accommodate all military aircraft and some of the largest civilian aircraft made today. The aircraft parking ramp will accommodate two squadrons of fighter or transport planes. The training airspace includes most of the U.S. side of Lake Huron from the surface to 45,000 feet, and occasionally, some of Canada's airspace. There are low and high speed training routes that criss-cross the unpopulated farm and forest areas of northeastern Michigan.

The Alpena Combat Readiness Training Center is located in the northeast corner of lower Michigan, seven miles west of the city of Alpena.



The airfield was first used after WWI, when jennies landed on grass runways.



Youth Programs

Michigan Freedom Academy

The objective of the Michigan Freedom Academy is to promote a sense of patriotism, the desire to lead, an appreciation of freedom and a better understanding of civic responsibilities among Michigan's future leaders. High school juniors who are active in extra-curricular activities, have a grade point average of 3.0 or better and plan on attending college, are selected to attend a one-week camp at Alpena Combat Readiness Training Center. Academy delegates hear perspectives on freedom presented by political officials, spiritual leaders, business and industry executives, labor leaders, media representatives, education officials, and military representatives. The delegates participate in discussions, field exercises, physical competitions and social activities. There is no cost to attend. For more information call (517) 483-5600.



Delegates participate in many team-building exercises during their week stay at the Air National Guard Base in Alpena.



One of the most popular STARBASE activities is "flying" in the simulator.

STARBASE

STARBASE is a hands-on program that introduces at-risk youth, grades four to six, to practical and interesting activities related to science, math, engineering, and technology. The program also teaches goal setting skills to encourage strong self-esteem and positive attitudes. STARBASE is conducted at the Selfridge Air National Guard Base in Mt. Clemens. For more information, call (810) 307-4884.



Young Heroes

Through this nonprofit organization, Michigan National Guard volunteers present medals for heroism to youngsters who demonstrate exceptional courage during treatment for life-threatening illness or injury. The Young Heroes program responds with a medal to convey feelings of respect and admiration for the bravery these children show. Many of these children are happy "success" stories, having overcome their illness or injury. For those who lose their valiant battle, the medal serves as a reminder of the dignity and valor of an extremely courageous child. For more information or to make a referral or a contribution, contact the 127th Wing, Public Affairs Office, Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mt. Clemens at (810) 307-5576.

Drug Demand Reduction Program

While many programs work to reduce the supply of drugs, the Michigan National Guard Drug Demand Reduction Program (DDRP) works to reduce the demand — primarily among youth. DDRP assists in community events with schools, churches, government agencies and service clubs such as the Elks. DDRP compliments existing programs (such as DARE and PRIDE) by providing military speakers, armories to host events or equipment for military displays. For more information, call (517) 483-5859.

This young child pretends to contact his "higher headquarters" at a neighborhood association picnic. The Drug Demand Reduction Program provided this static display for children to learn about the National Guard.





Veterans Affairs Directorate

The Veterans Affairs Directorate oversees state supported and state resourced veterans facilities and programs including two state veterans homes, the Michigan Veterans Trust Fund and state grants to veterans service organizations.

The duties of Veterans Affairs, the Department's newest directorate, were transferred from other state departments over time, starting in 1983 when the Department began administering grants to Michigan's congressionally chartered veterans service organizations. In 1991, the two veterans homes were transferred and in 1995,



the Department took over the responsibilities of the Michigan Veterans Trust Fund.

Veterans Homes

The Grand Rapids Home for Veterans was established in 1886 and has a capacity of 757 nursing and residential beds. The D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans was established in 1981 in Marquette, Mich. and has a capacity of 241 nursing and residential beds.

A veteran eligible for admission is a Michigan resident who served honorably on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces for at least 90 days during a period of war (unless discharged earlier due to a service-related disability). A spouse, widow(er) or parent of an eligible veteran may also qualify for admission, depending on prioritized bed availability. For more information, call either the





Grand Rapids Home for Veterans at 1-800-MICH-VET or the D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans at 1-800-433-6760.

Michigan Veterans Trust Fund (MVTF)

Created in 1946 from \$50 million in postwar reserve funds, the MVTF administers two grant programs, the Emergency Grant Program and the Tuition Grant Program. Emergency grants are available to war time veterans and their dependents during times of personal emergent need. The Tuition Grant Program dates back to 1935 and has been administered by the MVTF since 1966. Tuition grants are available to sons and daughters of veterans with a service-related death or disability.

Since 1979, the MVTF has also functioned as the state central repository for DD Form 214s (Certificate of Release or Discharge) of service members leaving active duty who indicate Michigan as their home of record. MVTF also maintains separation documents of Michigan veterans granted state service bonuses from WWI, WWII, the Korean conflict and the Vietnam War.

State Grants to Veterans Service Organizations

Since 1927, the State has provided grants to congressionally chartered veterans service organizations in Michigan supplementing their respective programs and providing accredited

representation to eligible veterans seeking benefits from the federal Department of Veterans Affairs. The Veterans Affairs Directorate administers more than \$3.3 million annually in grants to Michigan's eleven designated active veterans service organizations. These organizations generate more than \$144 million in federal benefits for Michigan veterans.





Partnership for Peace

U.S. Support to Latvian Military

In late 1992, the Michigan National Guard was partnered with the Republic of Latvia through "Partnership for Peace," a Department of Defense program designed to aid in the development of republics formerly occupied by the Soviet Union. Through Partnership for Peace, the Michigan National Guard assists and advises Latvia as they transition to a citizen-based military organization subordinate to civilian authority.

The Department of Defense chose the National Guard as a role model for this program because the Guard is a community-based national defense force founded on democratic principals. The Michigan National Guard was selected for a partnership with Latvia due to the large number of ethnic Latvians that settled here upon the occupation of Latvia by the former Soviet Union.

The basis of the program is the free exchange of information in non-combat subjects as varied as information on military chaplains to the role of the non-commissioned

officer. The information is shared when groups of U.S. personnel visit Latvia or when Latvians visit U.S. facilities in Germany, the Continental U.S. and frequently Michigan. During these visits, briefings are given, a great deal of informal discussion is held, and practical examples are demonstrated.



A Michigan National Guard soldier (left) and a Latvian soldier (right) share map reading skills.

The United States Property and Fiscal Office For Michigan

The United States Property and Fiscal Office (USPFO) is the focal point for all federal funds and equipment allocated to the Army and Air National Guard for the State of Michigan.

The USPFO receives and accounts for all funds and property of the United States in the possession of the Michigan National Guard.

The USPFO also ensures federal funds are obligated and expended in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

As an agent of the National Guard Bureau, the USPFO provides financial and logistical resources for maintaining federal property provided to the State.

Enlistment in the Michigan Guard

Enlistment in the Michigan Army or Air National Guard is open to eligible men and women who meet the following qualifications:

- ★ a citizen of the United States or a permanent resident alien,
- ★ between the ages of 17* and 35, (up to age 59 if you have prior service),
- ★ pass the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB),
- ★ pass a standard Armed Forces physical examination,
- ★ and participate in an initial tour of active duty training (basic training).

(*Those under age 18 may get parental approval to join.)

For more information about enlistment:

Michigan Army National Guard at 1-800-292-1386

Michigan Air National Guard at 1-800-645-9420 (Selfridge Air National Guard Base)
or 1-800-432-4296 (Battle Creek Air National Guard Base)



Printed by the authority of Act 431 (P.A. 1984)
Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
Major General E. Gordon Stump
Director and The Adjutant General
1,000 copies printed at \$3.77 per copy
for a total cost of \$3,779.05.



